

## REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated May 4, 2005, wherein pending claims 1 – 28 were allowed and prosecution on the merits was closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*. Formal objections were raised as to the drawings and claims 1 and 27. Applicant is hereby: (1) amending claims 1 and 27 to overcome the examiner's objections, (2) amending the specification to cure the some of the objections to the drawings, (3) submitting formal drawings, and (4) canceling withdrawn claims 29 and 30. It is respectfully submitted that upon entry of this amendment, the application will be in condition for allowance, and such action is requested.

### Amendment to Specification and Formal Drawings

The drawings were objected to for failure to include the reference number 10 in FIG. 1A, for failure to include reference numbers 20a and 20b, and for the poor readability of certain handwritten reference numbers. Submitted herewith are formal drawings which eliminate any concern about the legibility of the handwritten reference numbers. As to the reference numbers that are missing from the drawings, applicant has amended the specification to delete any mention of numbers 10, 20a and 20b. It is submitted that the deletion of these numbers from the specification does not in any way affect the description or understandability of the invention.

### Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 27 have been amended, in accordance with the examiner's suggestions, to overcome the objections thereto. Applicant wishes to thank the examiner for his suggestions. As to claim 27, applicant has copied the recitation of materials from the specification but, as directed by the examiner, has expanded the abbreviations that were used in the specification. It is submitted that the meanings of the abbreviations used in the specification were, at the time of the application, well known to those of ordinary skill in the art.

### Conclusion

In view of the allowance of claims 1 – 27, and the correction of the formal matters raised by the examiner, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance,

and such action is earnestly solicited. The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if doing so would expedite issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

June 10, 2005

Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP  
4 Embarcadero Center, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111-4106  
Tel: (415) 434-9100  
Fax: (415) 434-3947

Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
David Schnapf  
Registration No. 31,566